Medical Superintendent, Ayurvedic Hospital, Lodhi Road, is looking after two other charges i.e. Adviser, ISM and Director, Indian Council of Research in Ayurveda simultaneously, and holding weekly piles treatment clinic in the said hospital;

(d) whether a doctor can effectively discharge so many responsibilities; and

(e) whether Government would review their decision in this regard/ propose to appoint a regular doctor of each specialist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) As an interim arrangement the Advisor (Ayurveda) has been additional charge of the post of Medical Superintendent of Ayurvedic Hospital. Lodhi Colony. There is no institution by the name of Indian Council of Research in Ayurveda.

Weekly clinic is assisted by another doctor of the hospital.

(d) Care has been taken to ensure overall improvement in efficiency.

(e) The post of Medical Superintendent has been advertised through the UPSC for appointment to the said post.

Legislation against forced Kidney Donation

5090. SHRI NANADESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item titled, forced kidney donor finally heard, published in the Hindustan Times dated 10th February, 2000.

(b) whether the affected person has been suitably rewarded and the alleged culprit punished.

(c) the steps being taken by Government to see that such cases do not happen in future.

(d) whether Government would bring a comprehensive legislation before Parliament with an exemplary punishment in such cases; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The NHFC has taken congnizance of the complaint dated nil of Shri Akram Raza Khan. The matter is under consideration of the Commission.

(c) to (e) Transplantation of Human Organs Act passed by the Parliament come into force with effect from 5.2.95. It provides for the regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of Human Organs for therapeutic purposes and for the prevention of commercial dealings in Human Organs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act provides that any person, who, transplantation, conducts, associates with or helps in any manner in the removal of any human organ without authority, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees. If a Registered Medical Practitioner is convicted, his name can be removed from the Register of the State Medical Council, for a period of two years for the first offence and permanently, for a subsequent offence. Two States viz. Bihar and Mizoram have not adopted the above mentioned act so far inspite of repeated reminders at the highest level. The punitive action against the culprits can be taken by the State Governments which have adopted the above mentioned Act, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Birth of Underweight Children

5091. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 33 per cent new born babies in India are under weight at the time of birth and as a result, they do not survive;

(b) whether it is also a fact that weight of babies at the time of birth affects their future weight, which can make them suffer from diseases throughout their life and the cause of less weight of a baby is his mother's health; and

(c) if so, the details of new, effective and useful scheme, if any being implemented for riddance from such weaknesses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Studies conducted by National Institute of Nutrition in various parts of the country on different population groups have indicated that about 30% of infants born in the country have low birth weight (weight less than 2500 gm.).